

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for filtering a dirty air stream in a vacuum cleaner
to obtain a clean air stream comprises subjecting the dirty air stream to a
first cyclonic separation stage to obtain a partially cleaned air stream and
subjecting the partially cleaned air stream to an electronic filtration stage
and optionally a second cyclonic separation stage to obtain the clean air
stream. The electronic filtration stage is optionally removable with a
10 cyclonic cleaning stage from the vacuum cleaner. The electronic filtration
stage is optionally an electrostatic precipitator which utilizes air flow
through the vacuum cleaner to generate the voltage used by the
electrostatic precipitator.

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